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AMENDMENT

Application #	09/214,708	RECEIVED
Confirmation #	8306	
Filing Date	January 11, 1999	JUL 14 2003
First Inventor	ITANO	TC 1700
Art Unit	1746	
Examiner	Winter, Gentle E.	
Docket #	P06217US0/BAS	

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

SIR:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 5, 2003, please amend the above identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

A complete listing of all claims is provided herewith in **Attachment A**. It will be noted that claims 11 and 15 are currently amended.

REMARKS

Claims 11-18 stand pending in the present application. By this Amendment, Applicant has amended claims 11 and 15. Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance based on the discussion which follows.

Claims 11, 12, 14-16 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Senoue et al (hereinafter "Senoue"). Claims 13 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Senoue further in view of Denison et al (hereinafter "Denison").

In order to more clearly recite Applicant's invention, Applicant has amended claims 11 and 15 to now recite that the claimed gases remove reaction byproducts